Hamilton Township Unofficial until 9/1/22

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 4, 2022 Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Hamilton Township Hall, 3042 N Rodgers, Harrison, MI 48625

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Mickie Duby, Mike Iutzi, Dave Wright, Valdine Erskine Guests: 1 Residents: 20

Township Employees: 3

**CALLED TO ORDER:** by Wright at 6:30 P.M, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Conway, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Read by Duby. Motion to approve report by Erskine; 2nd by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

**CLERK’S REPORT:** July minutes read by Erskine. Motion to approve minutes by Conway, supported by Duby; all in favor. **MC** Invoices over $100 read by Erskine; motion to approve and pay bills including incoming bills by Duby, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**

**Moment of Silence for fallen Sheriff’s Deputy, Nicole Shuff**

**GUESTS:**

**Commissioner, Sandy Bristol** reported the need to insure 3 ground wires are installed on ISP towers, County insurance saw an increase of 44% so they will seek info from other insurers, Lori Phelps is working to balance the budget, a hearing on Spongy Moth buffer zones is scheduled for August 17, MTA meeting is August 9, a Headlee proposal will not be on the ballot, all events scheduled at the Airport have been canceled and the $100k share of ARPA funds for the Airport was rescinded, citing language in the grant.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**:

**Resident Cheryl Wagner complained about a beach on Courtney**, being used by a resident. Other residents spoke up to confirm the subject of the complaint was privately owned and the owner was exercising his right to the beach. Wagner was concerned about the dock disturbing lily pads. She was directed to the DNR as this is out of the Township’s scope.

**A resident asked about the proper amount of road tax he should be paying** on private roads. Duby and other residents tried to clarify that private road tax is charged based on road frontage; one lot being 35 feet. Resident has 63 feet and he stated he is charged for 2 lots. He has submitted a survey to the Assessor for further determination. **A resident asked how the Township performed, during the August Primary.** Erskine reported the Township passed the Board of Canvassers inspection; our seasoned Election Inspectors had a successful night and the road millage request passed.

**Assessor’s Report:** Assessor, Tina Wright is absent

**Planning Commission Report**: Chair, Kelly Bennett reported no new activity; next meeting to be Wed, Sept 7, at 6:30 pm

**Zoning Admin Report**: Melissa Townsend is absent but turned in a report. A synopsis read by Wright shows 2 pole barns, 2 sheds, a fence, a pond, a new residence, and a Short-Term Rental were inspected and approved.

**Blight enforcement report**: Blight officer, Keith Rolph reported 1 new complaint for the month. A visit will be made to Mr. Hoover, involving other agencies, and require a clean-up of the right-of-way. A call will be made to the Health Department. The Stockwell Road complaint was sent a 30-day letter. Rolph again reviewed the Blight process, with the new required complaint form. Due to FOIA and legal concerns, complaints must be written. The Township has no enforcement capabilities concerning 4 wheelers, golf carts, bicycles, etc. Call the Police Dept. Firearms noise, concerns about guns, and noise in the middle of the night also go to the Sherriff’s Dept.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **Playground equipment** previously used at Larson Elementary was purchased with ARPA/Covid funds, for $2500. Further work to prepare the surface will be done prior to placement. **A bid for asbestos removal** is still outstanding before the old Township Hall can be demolished. Reviewed proper use of Covid grant.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **The Board discussed the need to increase Building/Zoning permits** fees. Fees charged by surrounding areas were compared. Conway offered a motion to increase fee from $25 to $50, supported by Erskine; all in favor. **MC** Increase to be effective September 1, 2022. **Buster Vasher is retiring September 1**. Board discussed hiring Reggie Garver to replace Buster as sexton. A vote was not necessary but all agreed. Wright to talk with Reggie concerning the fee for winter burials. **Wright contacted Hogger Signs** concerning repair of the Township sign; more to come. **Weather radios distributed by Emergency Management**/Jerry Becker are in limited supply. Duby had a small supply to distribute. Contact Jerry Becker for to see if others are available. 989-539-6161.

**Upcoming Dates:**

Siren is scheduled to be repaired, Friday, August 5.

County food distribution is Saturday, August 6.

Breakfast with the candidate for the November election will be at The Venue, in Clare, August 15.

Scrap Tire collection is September 17; 9 am – 4 pm. The Township needs volunteers. Call Dave Wright at 989-329-9711

**ADJOURNED:** Conway made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 PM, supported by Iutzi; all in favor. **MC**